A Fraggle Rock™ Book Starring Jim Henson's Muppets™

Traveling Matt's Adventures in Outer Space

By Michaela Muntean · Pictures by Lisa McCue

(Original Title: The Tale of Traveling Matt)

Weekly Reader Presents

Traveling Matt's Adventures in Outer Space

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By Michaela Muntean · Pictures by Lisa McCue

Muppet Press
Holt, Rinehart and Winston
NEW YORK

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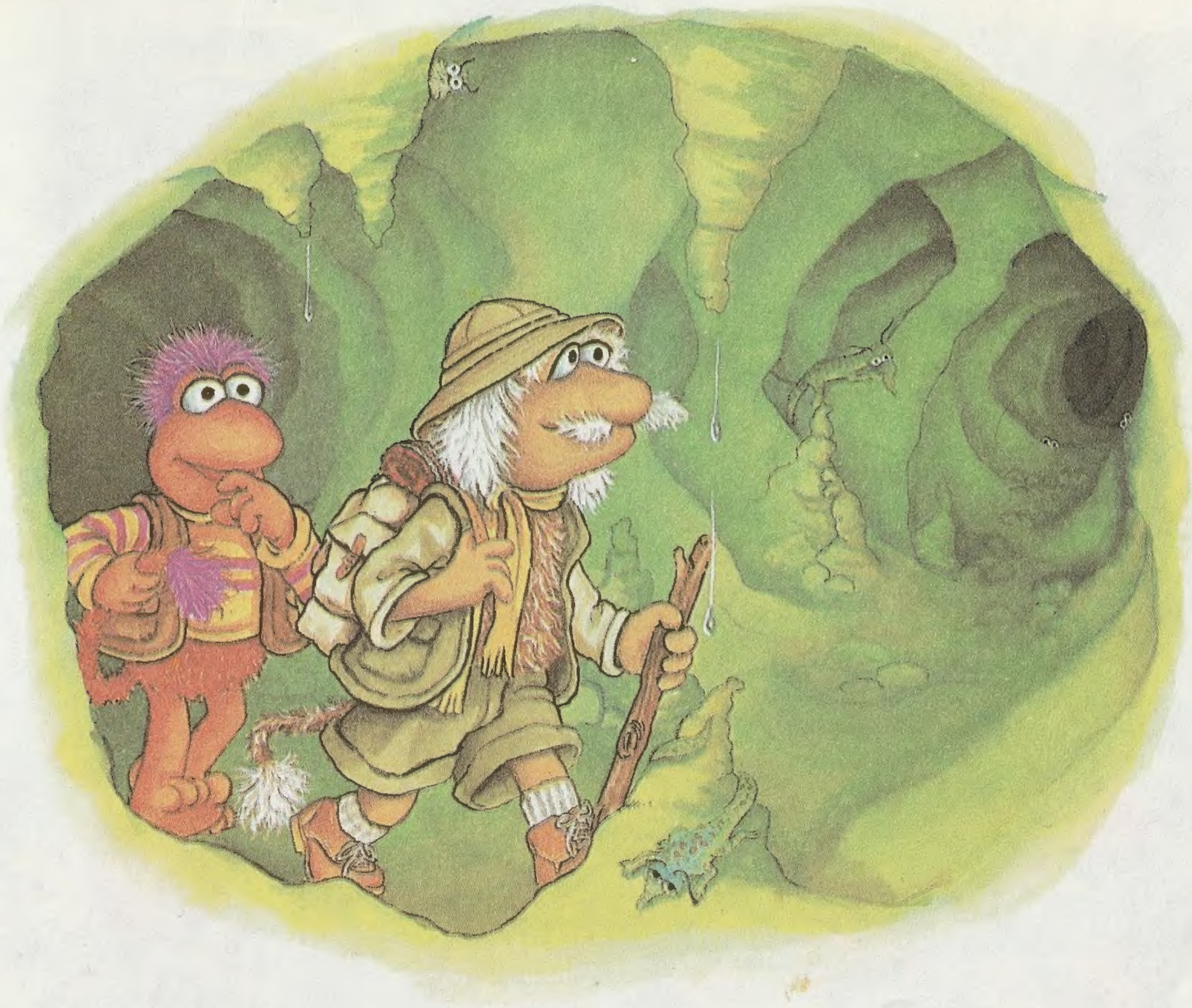
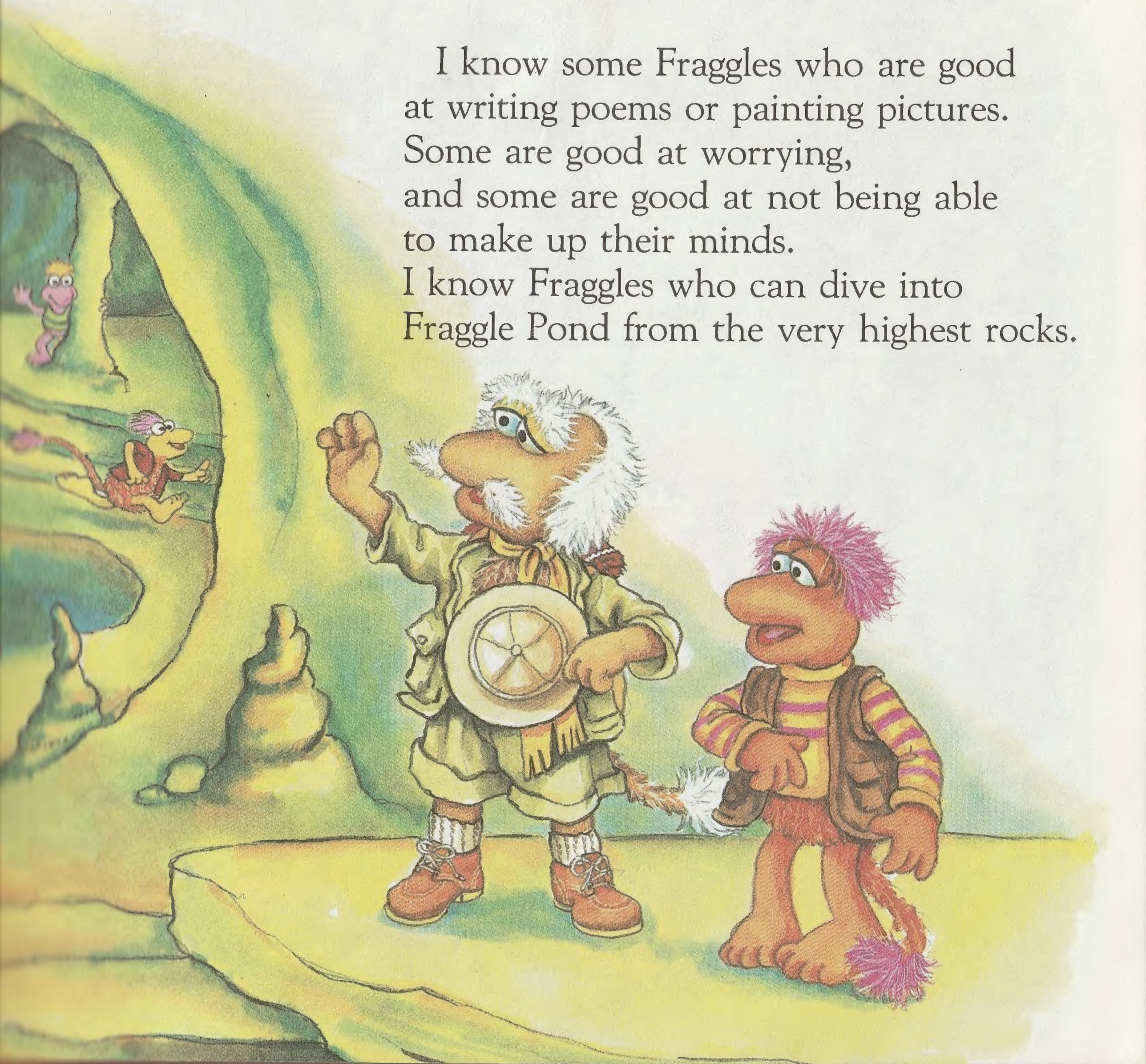


THERE is no Fraggle
in all of Fraggle Rock
who is as brave and daring
as my Uncle Traveling Matt.

I know some Fraggles who are good
at writing poems or painting pictures.
Some are good at worrying,
and some are good at not being able
to make up their minds.
I know Fraggles who can dive into
Fraggle Pond from the very highest rocks.

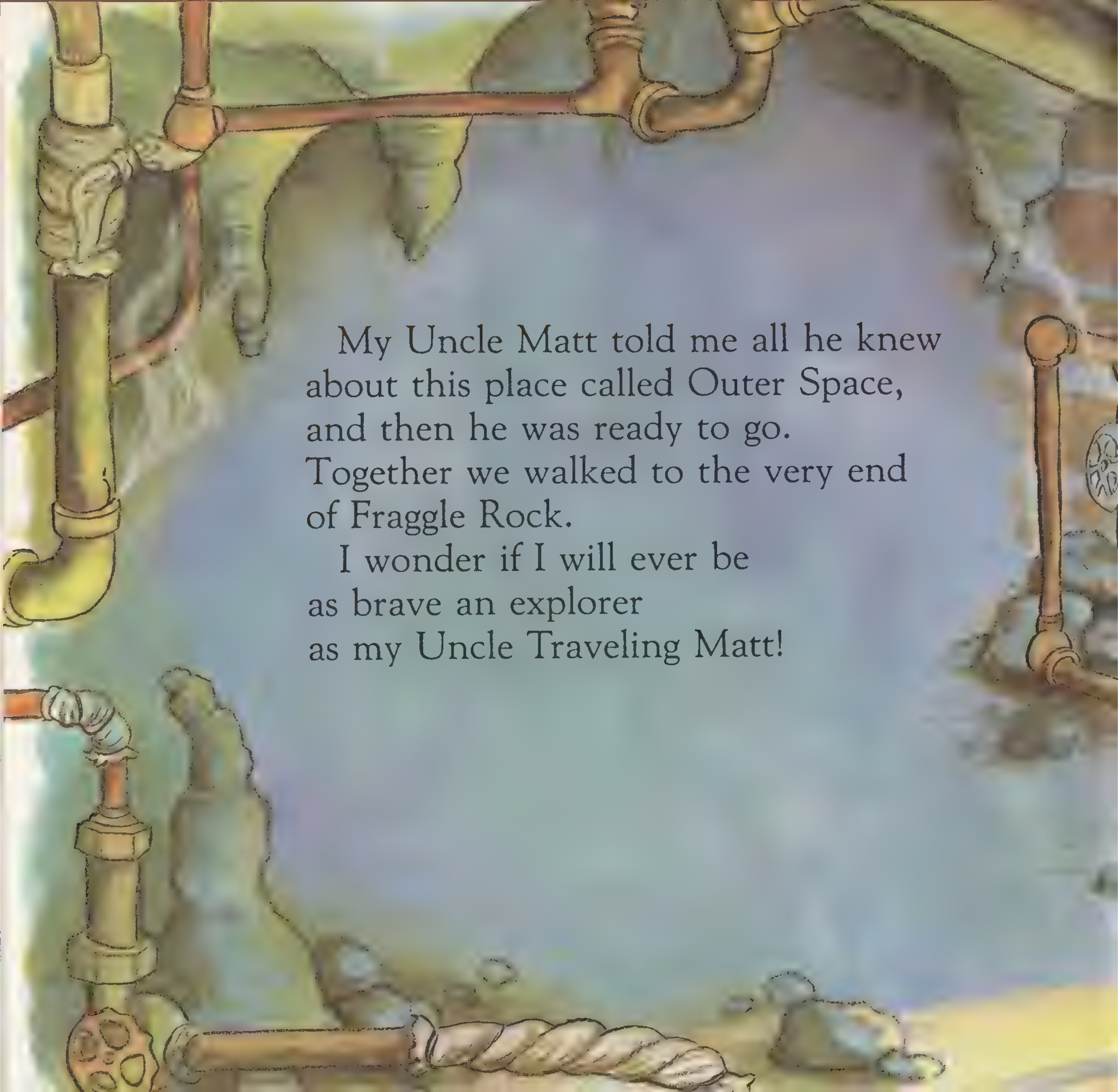


There are even some Fraggles, like me,
who are not afraid to explore
the deepest, darkest caves.
But there is *no* Fraggle anywhere
who would even think of doing the things
my Uncle Matt has done!

I will never forget the day my uncle told me
that his work in Fraggle Rock was finished.
He passed the job of Chief Explorer on to me.
"Gobo," he said (that's my name),
"I am finished exploring here,
and I am ready to explore *there*."

"Where is *there?*"
I asked him, and he told me.

"*There,*" he said, "is a place outside
Fraggle Rock, a place I call Outer Space.
I have been reading about it for years,
and now I am ready to see it for myself."



My Uncle Matt told me all he knew
about this place called Outer Space,
and then he was ready to go.
Together we walked to the very end
of Fraggle Rock.

I wonder if I will ever be
as brave an explorer
as my Uncle Traveling Matt!

Before he left, Matt said,
"Young Gobo, I will not forget you
and the Fraggles here at the Rock.
Every week, I will send you a postcard
and tell you all about the things I find."
And with that he was gone —
gone to face the dangers that lay ahead.

My Uncle Matt
kept his promise to write,
and the next week,
his first postcard arrived.

"Dear Gobo,
The first creatures
I have seen here all seem very strange.
They are not like you or me.
They are not like Gorgs or Doozers
or anything else in Fraggle Rock.

"They live in a large, open space.
The ground is covered with grass,
which seems to be their only food supply.
(I have not yet found any radishes
or Doozer sticks here.)

"I decided these creatures would be
the first ones I would interview,
and I slowly approached
one thoughtful-looking group.

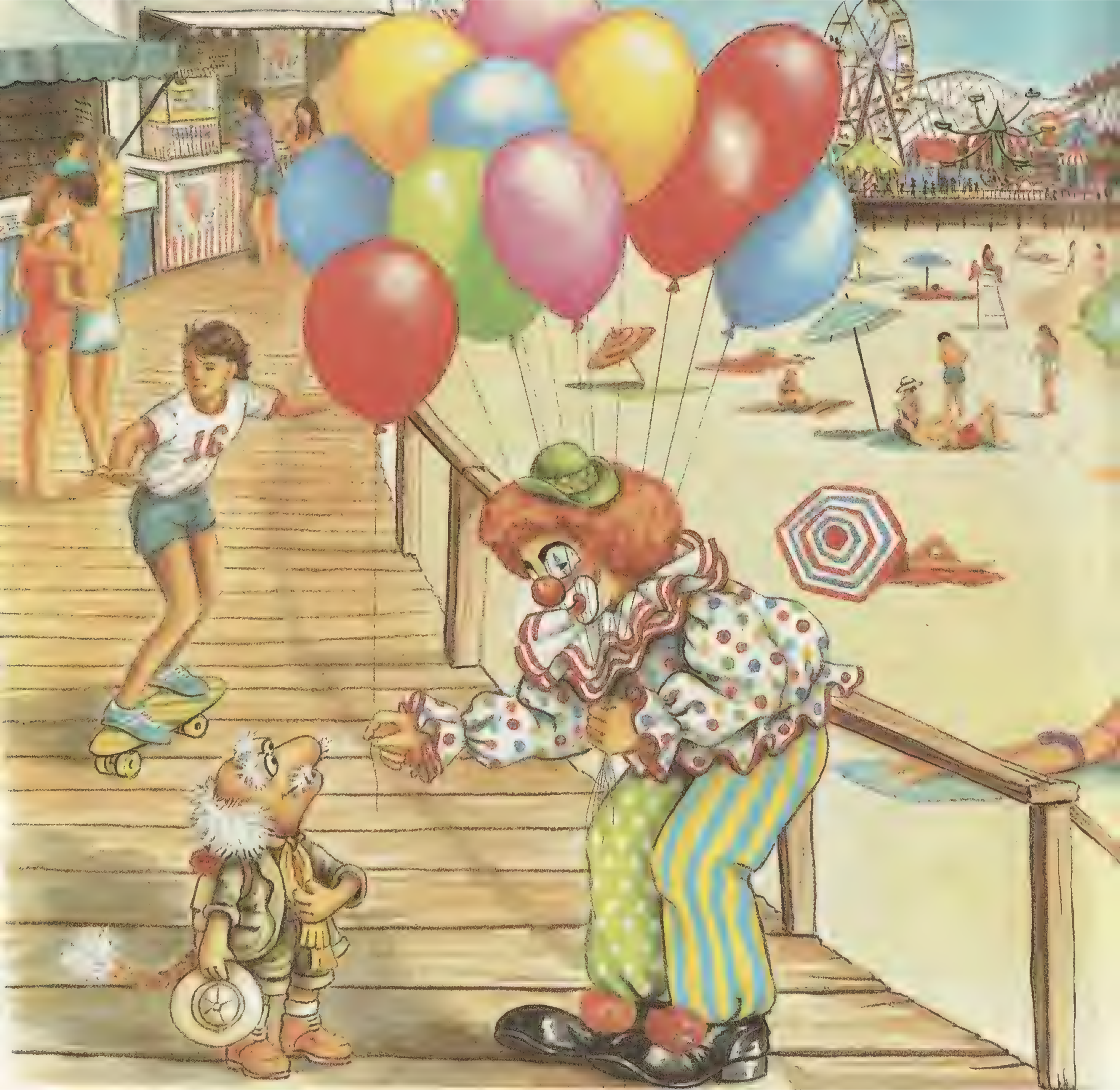
"But they were very odd! No matter what I asked them, their only answer was *moo*. I still have not figured out what this means.

"The next group I tried to talk to was not helpful, either. The only word they seemed to know was *quack!* I am beginning to wonder if every group of Outer Space creatures has only one word in its language."

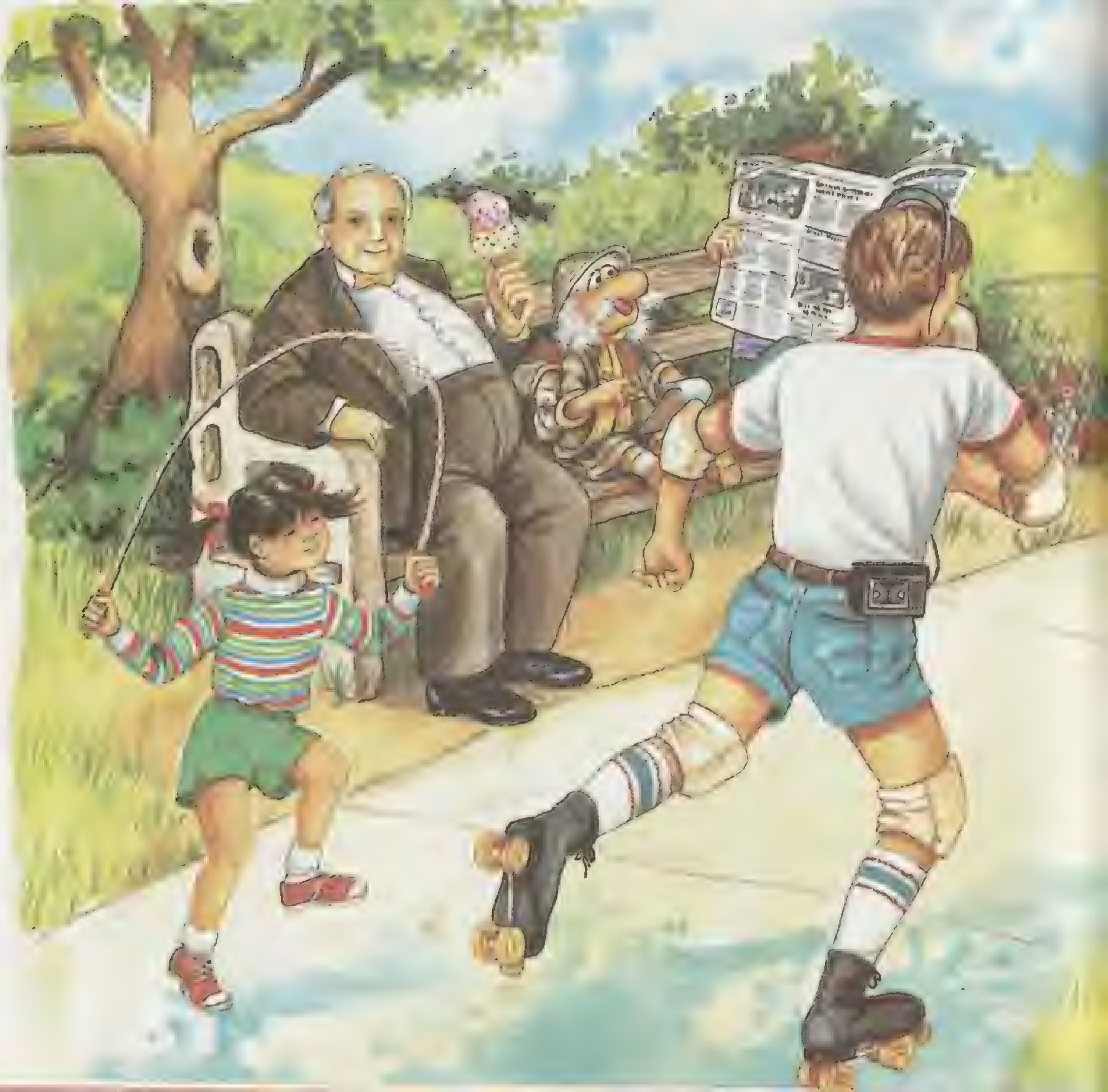
"Dear Gobo,
You know that I am never ever
a scaredy-wingbat, but today I saw a monster
that filled me full of fear and turned
my legs to jelly! It was bigger than a Gorg
and had a mouth filled with enormous teeth.
I saw another creature feeding it
large vats of food, which the monster
gobbled down in one bite!"

"Dear Gobo,
I have finally met some small,
friendly creatures who like to talk and sing.
The only problem is that they do not seem
to listen to anything I say. Every time
I ask a question, they keep right on talking
about whatever they want to!
I have been watching them most of the day,
and they are the laziest creatures I have seen
so far. They never move an inch.
Outer Space is a truly amazing place!"

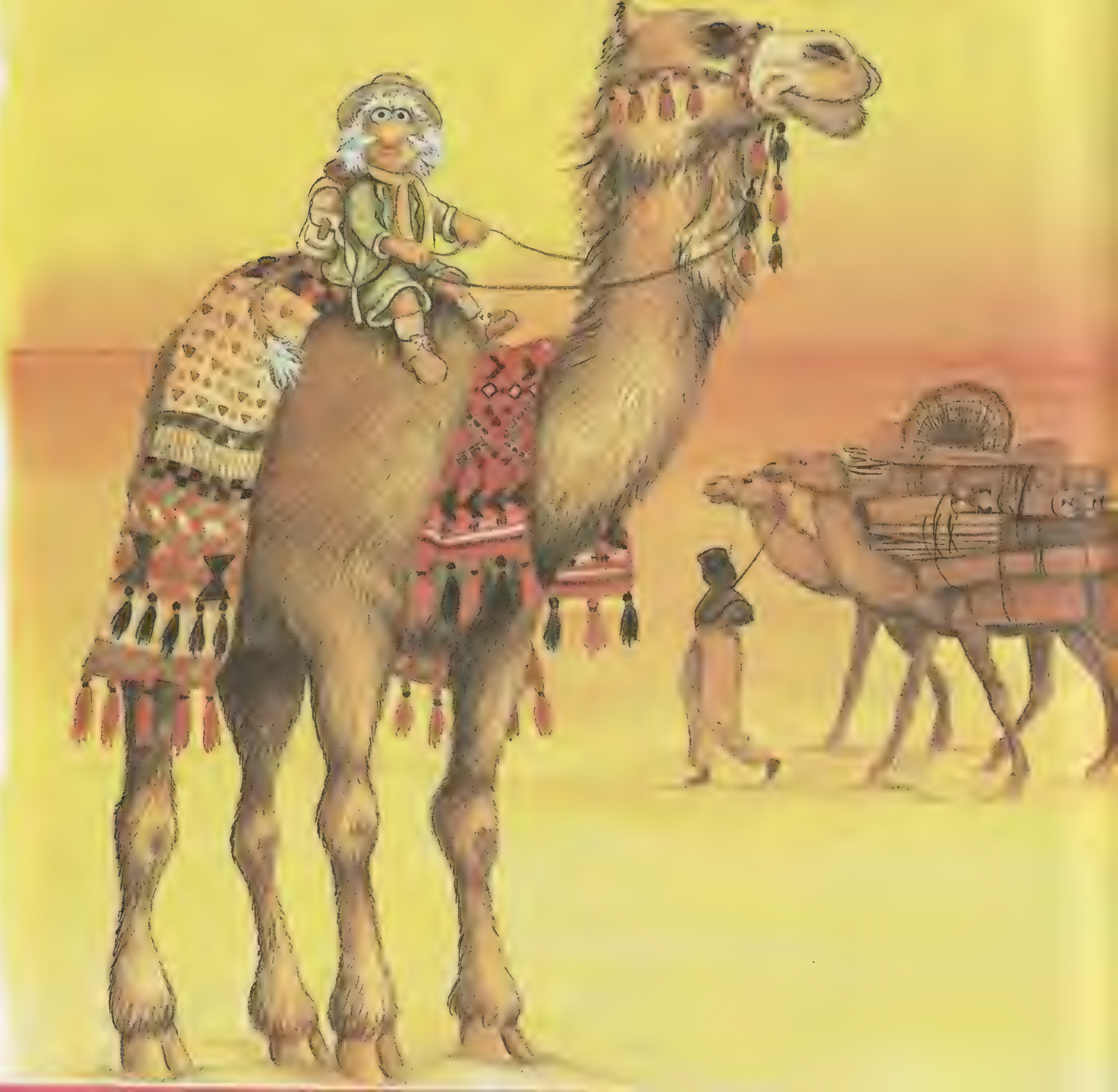
"Dear Gobo,
I know it must be hard
for you to believe, but all the things I write
to you are true. Most of the creatures
I have seen in Outer Space are the ones
I call Silly Creatures. The other day,
I found some in a cave where they do
strange things to the fur on their heads!



"Silly Creatures are everywhere! They seem
to be able to live on land, on sea, and even
in the air. I do not understand why,
but sometimes I have even seen them wear disguises.
I don't know whom they are trying to fool.
I knew right away it was a Silly Creature!



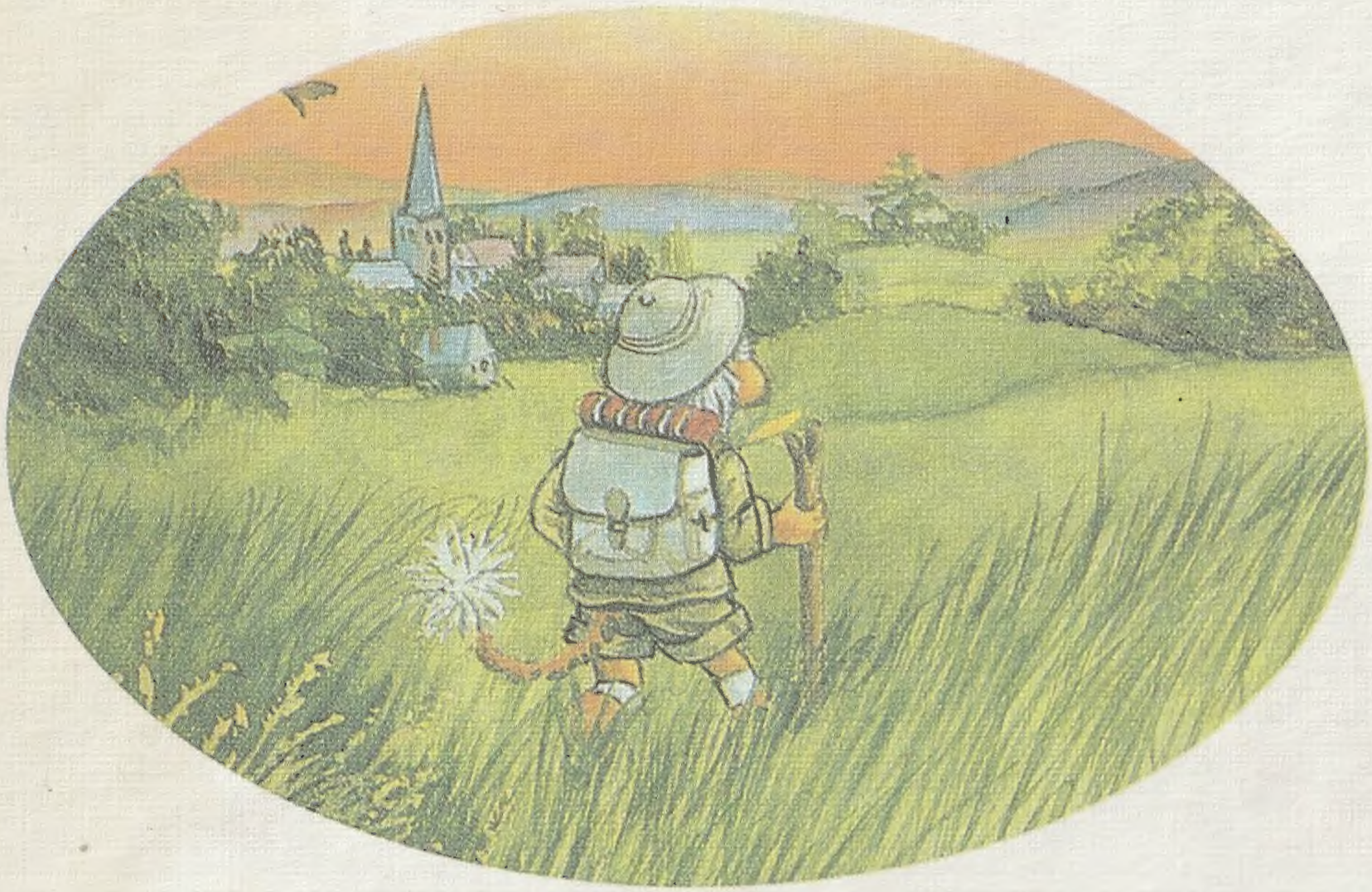
"The Silly Creatures
come in all sizes, shapes, and colors,
but they do not have much fur. Some
of them play games that Fraggles would like.
There is much work for me to do here.
Love, Your Uncle Traveling Matt"



Most of my Fraggle friends do not believe
the things my Uncle Matt writes to me,
but I do. Sometimes, I lie awake at night
and wonder what strange new creatures he has met
or what his next adventure in Outer Space will be.

Just think of it! Somewhere, someplace,
way out there, is the bravest and most
daring Fraggle who's ever lived—
my Uncle Traveling Matt.

Fraggle Rock can be seen on
HBO in the U.S. and on CBC in Canada.



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